

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00
ICAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 ACDA-12 /094 W
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O R 292021Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0785
INFO AMCONSUL BELIZE
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 3838

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, UK, BH, GT
SUBJECT: ANGLO-GUATEMALAN DISCUSSION IN MIAMI

REF: GUATEMALA 3767

1. FOREIGN MINISTER DISIGNATE CASTILLO VALDEZ TELEPHONED MORNING JUNE 29 TO DESCRIBE POINTS ON BELIZE WHICH HE WAS SUGGESTING THAT PRESIDENT LUCAS INCLUDE IN HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS (REFTEL). PRINCIPAL POINTS WHICH CASTILLO VALDEZ MENTIONED (WHICH ARE, OF COURSE, SUBJECT TO REVISION) WERE THAT GUATEMALA WOULD CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN ITS LEGITIMATE RIGHTS BUT THAT IT WAS STEADFAST IN ITS DESIRE TO REACH A PEACEFUL NEGOTIATED SOLUTION TO THE BELIZE QUESTION. NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN A CIVILIZED MANNER. GUATEMALA FEELS THAT FULL CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE INTERESTS OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE AREA. GOG WOULD CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS OPENS IN FRONT OF GUATEMALAN PEOPLE AS THEY WILL, IN LAST ANALYSIS, HAVE TO RATIFY ANY AGREEMENT REACHED BY GOG. ANY SUCH AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE TO MAINTAIN POSITION OF DIGNITY FOR GUATEMALAN NATION.

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2. CASITLLO VALDEZ SAID THAT HE FELT STATEMENT ALONG ABOVE LINES WOULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF PAST PROGRESS MADE IN BELIZE NEGOTIATIONS WITH UK, AND WOULD ALSO SET FORTH INCOMING GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE FOR CONTINUATION OF NEGOTIATIONS TOWARDS A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. REFERRING TO THE DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT WITH THE BRITISH IN MIAMI, HE SAID UK HAD EVEN HINTED THAT THEY MIGHT BE PREPARED TO

WITHDRAW TWO HARRIER AIRCRAFT FROM BELIZE AS A QUID PRO QUO FOR SUCH A STATEMENT BY LUCAS. HE SAID SUCH ACTION BY THE UK, WHICH HOPEFULLY MIGHT RESULT IN UP TO FIVE HARRIERS BEING WITHDRAWN, WOULD SERVE AS A SYMBOL OF THE GOOD INTENTIONS OF HMG TO PURSUE NEGOTIATIONS CONSTRUCTIVELY WITH THE GOG, AND HE IMPLIED USG MIGHT PLAY USEFUL ROLE IN NUDGING HMG.

3. WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH BRITISH CONSUL WILMSHURST HERE ABOUT THIS REPORT. WILMSHURST SAID HE HAD ALSO RECEIVED MUCH THE SAME INFORMATION THIS MORNING FROM CASTILLO VALDEZ WHO ADDED THAT GENERAL MENDOZA WOULD LIKewise TREAT BELIZE IN LOW-KEY MANNER AT ARMY DAY SPEECH TOMORROW.
BOSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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